

## Virginia Ecological Services

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Photos:

Jess Jones -- <https://www.flickr.com/photos/northeastregionevents/14221178690/>

### **Restoration biologist receives Rachel Carson Award for Scientific Excellence**

Dr. Jess Jones of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Virginia Field Office in Gloucester, Virginia, recently received the agency's Rachel Carson Award for his work to protect natural resources. Stationed at Virginia Tech's Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Center, he leads efforts to conserve freshwater mussels, which are among the most imperiled animals in the country with a number teetering on the brink of extinction. Jess was recognized for his work to further the science supporting mussel conservation by facilitating academic exchanges, conducting seminars with scientists and graduate students, and participating in international efforts to propagate mussels. Jess' passion and enthusiasm for his work sets him apart from other biologists in his field of expertise.

The Service's Rachel Carson Award for Scientific Excellence is presented annually to an employee, or group of employees, who exemplifies the best in the Service's tradition of scientific contributions to applied conservation science for the achievement of extraordinary results in fish and wildlife conservation.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit [www.fws.gov/northeast](http://www.fws.gov/northeast). Connect with our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/usfwsnortheast](http://www.facebook.com/usfwsnortheast) follow our tweets at <http://twitter.com/USFWSNortheast>, watch our YouTube Channel at <http://www.youtube.com/usfws> and download photos from our Flickr page at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usfwsnortheast>.

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